

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

1. (Withdrawn) A negative ion generating medium comprising an anodized layer provided on the surface of a mother material made of aluminum or aluminum alloy and a negative ion generating metal separated from a solution doped with a negative ion generating metal salt and deposited on the anodized layer.

2. (Withdrawn) A negative ion generating medium according to claim 1, wherein the negative ion generating metal is composed of one or more metals selected from zirconium, vanadium, lithium, yttrium, thorium, uranium, radium, and radon.

3. (Original) A method of manufacturing a negative ion generating medium characterized by electrolytically processing a mother material made of aluminum or aluminum alloy in an electrolyte liquid of sulfuric acid, oxalic acid, phosphoric acid, or their two or three combination doped with a negative ion generating metal salt to develop an anodized layer on the surface of the mother material and to deposit a negative ion generating metal from the negative ion generating metal salt on the anodized layer.

4. (Currently Amended) A method of manufacturing a negative ion generating medium characterized by

electrolytically processing a mother material made of aluminum or aluminum alloy and covered at the surface with an anodized layer in an electrolyte liquid of sulfuric acid, oxalic acid, phosphoric acid, or their two or three combination doped with a negative ion generating metal salt and with either

~~a metal nitrate such as silver nitrate, copper nitrate, or their combination or~~

~~a metal sulfate such as silver sulfate, copper sulfate, or their combination~~

to deposit a negative ion generating metal from the negative ion generating metal salt and a specific metal from the metal nitrate or metal sulfate on the anodized layer.

5. (Currently Amended) A method of manufacturing a negative ion generating medium characterized by

subjecting a mother material made of aluminum or aluminum alloy and covered at the surface with an anodized layer to ~~the electrolytic~~ an electrolytic process in a phosphoric acid bath to modify the shape of the anodized layer and

electrically processing the mother material in an electrolyte liquid of sulfuric acid, oxalic acid, or their combination doped with a negative ion generating metal salt to deposit a negative ion generating metal from the negative ion generating metal salt on the anodized layer which has been modified in the shape.

6. (Original) A method of manufacturing a negative ion generating medium characterized by electrolytically processing a mother material made of aluminum or aluminum alloy and covered at least partially at the surface with a granular resin coating in an electrolyte liquid of sulfuric acid, oxalic acid, phosphoric acid, or their two or three combination doped with a negative ion generating metal salt to develop an anodized layer on the surface of the mother material and to deposit a negative ion generating metal from the negative ion generating metal salt on both the anodized layer and the granular resin coating.

7. (Original) A method of manufacturing a negative ion generating medium according to claim 6, wherein the granular resin coating is made of fluorine resin, phenol resin, or acrylic resin.

8. (Original) A method of manufacturing a negative ion generating medium characterized by electrolytically processing a mother material made of aluminum or aluminum alloy and covered at least partially at the surface with a granular resin coating and then with an anodized layer in an electrolyte liquid of sulfuric acid, oxalic acid, phosphoric acid, or their two or three combination doped with a negative ion generating metal salt to deposit a negative ion generating metal from the negative ion generating metal salt on both the anodized layer and the granular resin coating.

9. (Currently Amended) A method of manufacturing a negative ion-generating medium according to any of claims 3 to 6 and 8, wherein the negative ion generating metal is composed of one or more metals selected from the group consisting of zirconium, vanadium, lithium, yttrium, thorium, uranium, radium, and radon.

10. (Original) A method of manufacturing a negative ion generating medium according to claim 9, wherein the electrolytic process is carried out using

- a commercial alternating current,
- an AC/DC combined current,
- a PR current at the negative mode,
- a pulse waveform current at the negative mode,

or their combination.